

REMARKS

Applicants request favorable reconsideration and allowance of the subject application in view of the preceding amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 51-58 remain pending in this application, with Claims 51, 54, 57 and 58 being independent and having been amended herein.

While Applicant believes the claims prior to amendment herein were allowable, the preceding amendments have been made to even further distinguish the claims from the citations of record.

With the claimed arrangements and method, only two successive operations of a single designating unit may be required to execute printing through designation of a print subject image and display of the print setting screen after an image to be printed is displayed, so that simplification of the printing operation can be attained. In addition, if a user wishes to change a displayed printing condition when the user first operates the designating unit to confirm the printing condition displayed on the print setting screen, the user can make a change of the print setting condition by operating a member different from the designating unit. Accordingly, the printing system can be made even easier to use.

As discussed previously, Kobayashi et al. includes a mode setting dial 20 for setting a set up mode, a reproduction mode, a print mode and the like, a cursor key 28 used to select an image to be printed, and a print key 24 used to instruct the printer to print the selected image. Thus, as noted previously, Kobayashi et al. utilizes different operation units in different modes to display the print menu and instruct the printer to print the displayed image. In more

detail, Kobayashi et al. switches between an image reproduction mode and print condition setting (SETUP) using mode dial 20. When a user wishes to print an image, the mode dial 20 must be set to the reproduction mode to display a frame image, desired to be printed, on a liquid crystal display 19, and then a print key 24 is operated while the image is being displayed on display 19. That is, printing is executed by one operation of the print key after the image to be printed is reproduced (selected) and without displaying a print condition setting. Accordingly, Kobayashi et al. fails to disclose or suggest at least causing a display apparatus to display a print setting screen for displaying a print condition determined in advance, in accordance with a first designation when an image pickup apparatus is communicating with an external printer and is in a state in which an image to be displayed on the display apparatus is changeable in accordance with the operation of an operation unit, and instructing the external printer to print the image displayed by the display apparatus, in response to a second designation provided to the designating unit successively to the first designation, as recited is recited in the independent claims.

Moreover, since Kobayashi et al. does not display the print condition setting after operation of the print key, Kobayashi et al. cannot be said to disclose or suggest that while causing the display apparatus to display the print setting screen, the print condition can be selected by operation of an operation member different from a designating unit, as is also recited in the independent claims.

Kobayashi et al. fails to disclose or suggest important features of the present invention recited in the independent claims.

The remaining citations have been reviewed, but are not believed to remedy the deficiencies of Kobayashi et al. noted above with respect to the independent claims.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that the present invention is patentably defined by independent Claims 51, 54, 57 and 58. Dependent Claims 52, 53, 55 and 56 are also allowable, in their own right, for defining features of the present invention in addition to those recited in their respective independent claims. Individual consideration of the dependent claims is requested.

Applicant submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration, withdrawal of the rejections set forth in the above-noted Office Action, and an early Notice of Allowability are requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

/Mark A. Williamson/

Mark A. Williamson
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 33,628

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

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